WO 2004/020249 PCT/US2003/026995

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An overhead system for a vehicle, comprising:

a substantially transparent panel adapted to cover a portion of a roof area of the vehicle;

at least one elongated member adapted to couple to at least one of the substantially transparent panel and a structural portion of the vehicle;

wherein the elongated member is configured to receive at least one article for use within the vehicle.

- 2. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated member is coupled to the substantially transparent panel and to the structural portion of the vehicle.
- 3. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent panel is adapted to cover substantially all of the roof portion of the vehicle.
- 4. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent panel comprises a shielded section configured to at least partially conceal the presence of the elongated member.
- 5. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated member is at least partially conductive for transmission of electricity.
- 6. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated member comprises a passageway for routing utility carriers to the article.
- 7. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent panel is formed in a shape having a contour and the elongated member is formed having a profile adapted to fit the contour.

WO 2004/020249 PCT/US2003/026995

8. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated member comprises a recess adapted to receive a fastener provided on the article for releasably securing the article to the elongated member.

- 9. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated member includes an interlock to permit placement of articles on the elongated members only at certain predetermined locations.
- 10. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent panel includes at least one of a photochromic, an electrochomic and an eletrochemochromic light filtration device.
- 11. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent panel comprises a portion that is capable of opening.
- 12. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent panel is removable.
- 13. The overhead system of Claim 1 further comprising a trim piece interfacing with the substantially transparent panel and the elongated member.
- 14. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated members are a multi-piece structure.
- 15. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated members are removably attached to the vehicle by a quick-disconnect device.
- 16. The overhead system of Claim 1 wherein the elongated member comprises a plurality of apertures configured for engagement with at least one projection coupled to the article.